

Staff News at CCR

Announcements

(Photo: B. Branson)



James Gulley, M.D., Ph.D.

James Gulley has been named Director of CCR's Medical Oncology Service. He will continue his role as Chief of CCR's Genitourinary Malignancies Branch. Gulley received his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from Loma Linda University in California. He completed his residency in internal medicine at Emory University and a medical oncology fellowship at NCI. Following his fellowship, he was retained as senior staff at NCI. Gulley has developed a productive translational program and has run multiple clinical trials in immunotherapy for prostate cancer. His research focuses on the use of cancer vaccines and other immunostimulatory molecules to modulate the immune response in cancer patients and to enhance vaccine-mediated killing.

(Photo: B. Branson)



Melinda Merchant, M.D., Ph.D.

Melinda Merchant has been appointed as Clinical Director of CCR's Pediatric Oncology Branch (POB). She received her M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Miami and completed a residency in pediatrics at Children's National Medical Center in Washington, D.C. After completing a clinical fellowship in POB, she served on the faculty at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. She rejoined POB in 2009 to lead its clinical program in pediatric solid tumors. Her research focuses on the translation of immunotherapies and molecularly informed therapies in pediatric solid tumors, including bone and soft tissue tumors, melanoma, and neuroblastoma.

New Tenure-Track Scientists

(Photo: B. Branson)



Luca Gattinoni, M.D.

Luca Gattinoni is now a Tenure-Track Investigator in CCR's Experimental Transplantation and Immunology Branch. He received his M.D. from the Università degli Studi in Milan, Italy, and completed his residency in medical oncology at the Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori in Milan. He then joined NCI as a Visiting Fellow and in 2008, he became a Staff Scientist in CCR's Surgery Branch. His research focuses on T cell-based immunotherapies with an emphasis on T-cell differentiation and transcriptional regulation of T-cell self-renewal and memory formation.

(Photo: B. Branson)



James N. Kochenderfer, M.D.

James Kochenderfer is now a Tenure-Track Investigator in CCR's Experimental Transplantation and Immunology Branch. He received his M.D. from West Virginia University and completed his clinical training in internal medicine at Vanderbilt University. Following oncology and hematology fellowships at The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center and at Baylor College of Medicine, he joined NCI in 2002 as a Clinical Fellow. He has also held the position of Assistant Clinical Investigator. His research focuses on the development of genetically engineered T cells aimed at fighting lymphoma and leukemia.